

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09
OES-07 AID-05 CEQ-01 SOE-02 EPA-01 L-03 NSF-01
NSC-05 PM-05 USIA-06 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05
SAB-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 AF-10 EA-10 EUR-12
NEA-10 /166 W

-----109368 110640Z /15

R 102050Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5195

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, SENV, IMCO, PN

SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION BY PANAMA IN LONDON PLENIPOTENTIARY
CONFERENCE ON OIL POLLUTION APPEARS UNLIKELY

REF: A) STATE 296444; B) PANAMA 2446

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL, EMBOFF MET WITH PEDRO BRIN MARTINEZ, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, CONFERENCES AND TREATIES IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, AND ALSO SPOKE WITH MS. CAMILA M. VIVES, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CONSULAR AND SHIPPING AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF TREASURY, CONCERNING PANAMA'S VIEWS ON U.S. PROPOSALS WITH REGARD TO TANKER SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION. MR. BRIN ASSURED EMBOFF THAT PANAMA WAS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO ANY LEGISLATION THAT SERVED TO CURB OIL POLLUTION, AND MAINTAINED A KEEN INTEREST IN SUCH LEGISLATION BECAUSE OF PANAMA'S INHERENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE PANAMA CANAL.

2. BOTH MR. BRIN AND MS. VIVES BRIEFLY OUTLINED THE PROBLEM PANAMA FACES WITH REGARD TO ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE FEBRUARY
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CONFERENCE OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO). PANAMA IS SEVERAL YEARS BEHIND IN THE PAYMENT OF ITS DUES TO IMCO. THE GOP HAS NOT INCLUDED THIS EXPENSE IN ITS ANNUAL BUDGET. AS MS. VIVES POINTS OUT, SINCE THE DUES ARE BASED ON SHIPPING TONNAGE, PANAMA'S SHARE, INCLUDING THAT PORTION IN ARREARS, IS NOW A CONSIDERABLE SUM.

3. ALTHOUGH PANAMA HAS SELECTED TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE FEBRUARY CONFERENCE (ANTONIO/STAGG, PANAMANIAN CONSUL IN NEW YORK AND JAMES MUSSER, ALSO AT THE NEW YORK CONSULATE), THEY MAY NOT ATTEND SINCE, BEING IN ARREARS, PANAMA WOULD NOT HAVE A VOTE AT THE CONFERENCE. THIS YEAR THE GOP IS ATTEMPTING TO BUDGET FOR THIS EXPENSE AND TO PAY HALF OF ITS BACK DUES NOW AND THE REMAINDER IN INSTALLMENTS OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. HOWEVER, IF IMCO DOES NOT ACCEPT THIS ARRANGEMENT AND RESTORE PANAMA'S VOTE AT THE CONFERENCE, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE PANAMANIAN DELEGATION WILL ATTEND.

4. MR. BRIN AND MS. VIVES MENTIONED THAT THE GOP HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY RESULTS OF THE MARINE SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC) AND THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE (MEPT) MEETINGS, AND BOTH EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN RECEIVING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. MS. VIVES WAS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE JOINT MSC/MEPC MEETING.

5. MS. VIVES EXPRESSED HER INITIAL REACTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S INITIATIVE ON MARINE OIL POLLUTION IN REF B).
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OILS, POLLUTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Film Number: D780015-1117
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780180/aaaacqae.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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